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## Cruise Tourism has booming prospects for Aruba for 2012-13



See story on page 5

## Arikok Park officials announce increase in entrance fees

Arikok National Park Director Roy Maduro and P/R Manager Jimmy Meijer announced yesterday, January 5, that 2012 will be a year of increased renovation and enhancement of the attractions of Aruba's primary environmental preserve. To pay for this continual improvement to the park they are raising the entrance free from \$5 to \$8, beginning immediately; these amounts will be in Aruban florins for legal island residents.

Additionally, the use of Shete entrance to the park, which leads directly to the Natural Pool, will now cost a uniform \$25 for both residents and visitors; officials acknowledged this is to discourage its use and encourage visitors to avail themselves of the facilities in the Visitor's Center located at the park's main



**Arikok Director Roy Maduro and PR mgr Jimmy Meijer**

entrance. It was also announced that certain areas of the park will receive a facelift, such as Mira Lama, which was a gold works at one time, but is now completely buried under scrub and

greenery. The area will be cleared, signs with historical and ecological information will be placed, and it is hoped to create an attraction of one of the original mine shafts.

*Continued on page 5*

## 68 dead as Iraq bombs hit Shiites

BAGHDAD (AFP) - A wave of attacks against Shiite Muslims killed at least 68 people yesterday, the worst toll in nearly five months, as Iraq grappled with a weeks-long political row that has stoked sectarian tensions.

The violence, which wounded more than 100, comes two weeks after a crisis erupted when the Shiite-led authorities charged Sunni Vice President Tareq al-Hashemi with running a hit squad soon after US troops pulled out.

Yesterday's attacks, which targeted only Shiites, were quickly condemned by Iraq's parliament speaker Osama al-

Nujaifi, a Sunni, as well as by Iraq's Shiite-majority neighbour Iran and UN special envoy Martin Kobler.

Nujaifi and Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki held talks in Baghdad in the aftermath of the attacks, amid calls for a meeting of political leaders to resolve the festering stand-off.

"Political leaders fight each other for power, and we pay the price," said Ahmed Khalaf, a labourer who was near the site of attacks in the north Baghdad neighbourhood of Sadr City.

"How is it our fault if Hashemi is wanted, or someone else is wanted? Why should we pay instead of them?"

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## Concert of the Musical Group Rockenbach Light from Belgium

Aruba Art Circle will begin 2012 with a New Year's concert presenting the talented musical Group Rockenbach Light from Belgium. The group has already presented a concert in 2010 for the benefit of 'Cas di Glas' for the 'Clown Dokters.' This concert will also be held for the benefit of the 'Clown Dokters.'

Five top musicians: a tenor, a soprano, and two rock singers accompanied by Hugo Ulens on the keyboard will bring a mix of popular, classical and tremendous rock music songs. Beethoven, Bach, Vivaldi, Verdi on strings of Michael Jackson, Queen, Joe Cocker, AC/DC and Falco together with fantastic duets from Pavarotti, Andrea Bocelli to Ramazzotti, Cocker and Peruchio will be on the repertoire of Rockenbach Light.

The concert will take place on Friday, January 6th in the Cas di Cultura. Entrance fee will be general AWG 35 (\$20), for members, AWG 30 and youth tickets will be AWG 15. During the intermission a glass of champagne will be served to toast on the New Year.

Tickets will be available at Cas di Cultura before the concert. On this evening it will be also possible to become a member of the Art Circle or renew your membership for the amount of AWG 70.



Rockenbach Group



Clown doctors with kids

Attending the concert not only will be to enjoy a very wonderful musical evening, but

also to support the Clown Dokters' to help sick children in the Horacio Oduber Hospital.

## Arubus announces its schedule for this Saturday for the Torch Parade

### Fakkel 2012

7 Januari 2012

#### Salida Busstation SN :

Lijndienst : 6:00 pm Via Dakota richting Playa  
6:10 pm Via Sta Cruz richting Playa  
6:35 pm Via Dakota richting Playa  
6:40 pm Via Dakota richting Playa  
7:00 pm Via Dakota richting Playa  
7:10 pm Via Sta Cruz richting Playa  
7:25 pm Via Dakota richting Playa

Extra Bus : Sallendo Entre 7:00 pm y 8:00 pm  
Via Dakota richting Playa

#### Salida Busstation O'stad :

Lijndienst : 11:25 pm Via Sta Cruz richting San Nicolaas  
11:30 pm Via Sta Cruz richting San Nicolaas  
12:30 am Via Dakota richting San Nicolaas

2 Extra Bus :Final di Fakkel For di Entertainment Center Dakota  
Direct richting San Nicolaas  
1 Extra Bus :Final di Fakkel For di Busstation O'stad Via Sta Cruz.

ORANJESTAD -- Aruba's public transportation company, Arubus N.V., announces that in order to give an optimal service during the upcoming Torch Parade this Saturday night, there will be more busses on the streets.

The extra busses will leave from the bus station in San Nicolas to Oranjestad before the Torch Parade and when the parade finishes the busses will leave the bus station of Oranjestad to San Nicolas.

Arubus wants to offer everyone the opportunity to leave their car in the parking lot of Arubus in San Nicolas and use this service to go to downtown Oranjestad and

back. This will avoid traffic jams, parking space, etc. Arubus assures all that at the end of the Torch Parade, there will be enough busses at the Oranjestad bus station and at the Aruba Entertainment Center to take everyone back safely to their destination or to the San Nicolas bus station.

After a night of dancing and merriment there is nothing more pleasant than to sit and relax and let the bus take you back home without having to worry about the traffic and people driving irresponsibly. Arubus guarantees everyone they have experienced drivers who will get you back home safe and sound. (See schedule above)



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## Chamber of Commerce announces new Board for 2012

ORANJESTAD -- On Wednesday, January 4th, the Aruba Chamber of Commerce and Industry elected their president and vice president for the year 2012. Mr. Mohamed J. (Jamal) Mahawat Khan was re-elected President and Robert E. Carrasquero was elected vice-president by the members of the board.

Alongside of the President and Vice-President of the Chamber, the following persons make up the rest of the Board: Oscar V. Britten, Satish D. Daryanani, John G. Eman, Francisco L.M. de Mey, Omar F. Tromp, Donicio R. (Ricardo) Wever, and madame Lindsey T.M. Wever.

Just recently the gentlemen, Satish D. Daryanani, Francisco L.M. de Mey and Robert E. Carrasquero were re-elected to the Board for a new period of three years (2012 -2014). New to the Chamber Board are Omar F. Tromp and Mrs. Lindsey T.M. Wever.

Last year Angelique M. de Vries and Sheila M. van Veen terminated their period of interim service as Board members. Their period of service was highly appreciated by the Chamber of Commerce; they made a significant contribution to the work of the Chamber.

Today, the President and Vice-President, assisted by the Secretary, Mr. Leo Maduro

comprise the daily executive team of the Chamber of Commerce & Industry. In the event of the absence of both the President and the Vice-President, the Board member with the longest amount of years in the Chamber, in accordance with the stipulated rules, fills in as the interim President. In this case that person is Satish D. Daryanani.

According to The Aruba Chamber of Commerce and Industry, they are again committed to serving specifically the interest of the commercial industry and the Aruba community in general and to do so with energy and enthusiasm again during this New Year.

## Arikok Park officials announce . . .

*Continued from page 1*

Other areas are being enhanced; a formal lookout is being placed at the summit of Mt. Arikok and a hiking trail created to it from Cunucu Abou. Signage has been ordered for all over the park with pictures of local flora and fauna and information regarding the various species, to facilitate a more enjoyable and informative experience for visitors.

Special annual rates are available for frequent visitors, assuming they are island residents; adults: 28 Aruban florins per year, with no charge anytime for youngsters under the age of 17 and 60+ pay only 15 Aruban florins per annum. Businesses can purchase a

"company plan" for their employees at 25 Aruban florins per year per staffer, and athletes using the coves in the park for surfing and body boarding can buy a special annual pass for 22.50 Aruban florins.

The ultimate aim of the park is to be a self-sustaining entity, explained Mr. Maduro. However, at present it is still being developed into a fully realized environmental protection facility and funds are needed to provide these many enhancements that will encourage visitors along with a respect and appreciation among islanders for the diversity and delicacy of Aruba's eco-systems and the various and unique flora and fauna.

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## Ping pong training has begun

ORANJESTAD – The Aruba table tennis association announces that after a small break, ping pong training has started again with a very busy schedule; all members are encouraged to train as much as possible in order to give a first-class presentation during the upcoming tournaments and championships of 2012.

Ping pong is a relatively easy sport to learn and play; tennis table equipment is often found in many homes, community centers and hotels.

Do you want to learn how to play ping pong so you can be a champion among family members and friends? Would you like to improve your physical condition? Are you already doing other sports that require above average footwork and hand-eye coordination? Or perhaps you are just seeking an entertaining manner in which to do some physical activity?

Well, here is your chance. The Aruba Table Tennis Association invites everyone, of all ages, youngsters and adults, who are interested to join them for their training sessions.

For youth, there are two training places: Colegio San



Antonio on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, from 4 to 6 p.m. and Centro Deportivo Yara in Savaneta on Tuesdays and Thursdays also from 4 to 6 p.m.

Intermediate level sessions are on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 6 to 8 p.m. at Colegio San Antonio in Santa Cruz.

For those who want to play only for recreation, ATTA offers trainings on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 8 to 10 p.m. at Colegio San Antonio in Santa Cruz.

The advanced trainings will also be at the same hour.

For more information readers may contact trainer Rudy Ragga at tel. 7451498 or send an e-mail at arubatabletennisassociation@yahoo.com



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## Lovely Sisters honored at the Casa Del Mar Beach Resort

Recently, the Aruba Tourism Authority (ATA) honored two very lovely sisters as Distinguished Visitors at the Casa Del Mar Beach Resort. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 10 to 19 consecutive years.

The honorees were Miss Sydnie Morgan Haendler and Miss Samantha Brooke Haendler. The Sisters love to visit the Butterfly farm, jump in the pool on a hot day, coconuts, iguanas and they consider Aruba as their home away from home. They have been coming every year with the whole family every since they were babies to enjoy the



sun and have fun together.

The certificates were presented by ATA representative Mr. Ernest Giel in preence of the girls' par-

ents, grandparents, cousins and Miss Xiomara from the activities desk of the Casa Del Mar Beach Resort.

## THE MORNING NEWS photo contest deadline extended by popular demand



THE MORNING NEWS is extending its photo contest to the end of the carnival season.

The upcoming weeks filled with fabulous events will offer many great photo ops, and your pix and win you terrific prizes and the opportunity to showcase your work for all the world to see. Visit our website: [www.themorningnewsaruba.com](http://www.themorningnewsaruba.com) where the online edition is read by thousands to subscribe at no cost. Each day, as

the paper is put online, you will receive an link to the current edition in your e-mail inbox; there is no cost whatsoever for this service.

Just subscribing to THE MORNING NEWS online will earn you a chance to win two tickets to Bonaire with Tiara Air Aruba, and sending in your photos will earn more raffle tickets in the box and more chances to win. The contest is open to Aruban residents

and visitors alike.

### Contest Rules:

1. Subscribe to THE MORNING NEWS online - it's free!!

2. Go to [www.themorningnewsaruba.com](http://www.themorningnewsaruba.com), click the subscribe button and follow directions to receive THE MORNING NEWS delivered to your e-mail box daily for no charge.

3. Send an e-mail to [themorningnewsaruba@aol.com](mailto:themorningnewsaruba@aol.com) to inform the office of

your user name and contact info: real name, address, & phone number, and receive 1 raffle ticket

4. Like us on Facebook, and receive a second raffle ticket

5. Raffle tickets are for final drawing on Ash Wednesday 2012;

### 6. Grand Prize:

Airfare for two to Bonaire with Tiara Airlines and other fabulous prizes

Photo contest prizes: You must subscribe to submit

1. Send us your favorite carnival pix via e-mail or deliver to our office on Caya Betico Croes

Just across from the Valero station.

2. "Picks of the day and week" will appear in THE MORNING NEWS

3. Contest begins today and deadline for submissions of photos is Monday, February 20, 2012 at 6:00 PM; drawing for raffle will take place on Ash Wednesday, February 22.

4. Judging is final; winners will be announced in Friday's paper, February 24.

5. Each photo submis-



**"THE MORNING NEWS photo contest makes me want to jump and dance!!"**

sion earns a raffle ticket towards the Ash Wednesday drawing

### Prizes for the Carnival photo Contest:

Grand Prize: 3 days/2 nights stay at Boardwalk Apartments

2nd Prize: Trip for two on Mi Dushi Sailboat

3rd Prize: Complete Play package at Cool Casino

Prize winners will receive additional raffle tickets towards final drawing, and a special surprise for the grand prize winning photo.

No purchase necessary to participate; subscription to THE MORNING NEWS and submission of photos are free; photos will only be used for Carnival promotion and owners retain all rights.



## Cruise Tourism has booming prospects for Aruba for 2012-13

ORANJESTAD -- Yesterday Royal Caribbean International announced the launch of their newest ship...Vision of the Seas, which is to sail in a series of the longest cruises in the Caribbean and the Panama Canal for the Winter of 2012-2013. And...Aruba is included in this venture.

Aruba is proud to recognize the growth of our cruise tourism, attributed in part by the return of Carnival Cruises. The prospects for 2012-13 are excellent with a total of 5 cruise calls from the majestic Vision of the Seas.

Vision of the Seas carries 2 thousand passengers. This

means that we will have a total of 10 thousand cruise visitors from them alone, in addition to their on board crew. This is extremely good news for the Aruban economy. It has been estimated that cruise tourists spend an average of \$100 during their one day stay on the island.

This is definitely good news for Aruba at the start of a new tourism year. Aruba does well to ensure that each of our cruise visitors is welcomed in the most amicable and professional manner.

We want them to return for longer stays to our hotels and beaches.

## Jackpot Winner played at Palm Beach Casino!



This week, the Palm Beach Casino at the Westin Resort had several winners.

Mrs. Luisa Levi from Venezuela hit the Jackpot "Quick hits Starlight Fire"; she won a total of \$1,842.72.

Mr. Glenn Buote from Canada won a total of \$1,127.00 at our Jackpot

"Tiki Island."

The Palm Beach Casino situated at the Westin Resort is where the winnings are.

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## Signs of revival for the defunct Bushiri Hotel complex!

ORANJESTAD -- On the 20th of December 2011, a Request for Proposal (RFP) was sent from the Aruba government to 4 of the 5 companies that showed an interest in developing the defunct Bushiri Hotel complex.

The 4 companies are: Global Destinations which is interested in developing a Starwood Hotel;

Desarrollo Hotelco S.A. with an interest in developing a Hilton Hotel; Elenath Finance Inc. with their intent on developing a Blue Tree Hotel; and, Southwest Horeca Development N.V. that is interested in a Hard Rock Café.

These four companies are now required to prepare their plans, do their economic feasibility studies and environmental impact studies. They will also have to present a business plan and secure financing. These will then be submitted for evaluation to a committee

assigned by the government of Aruba via the Minister of Tourism, Transport and Labor.

The ultimate date to submit the required documentation is set for March 2, 2012. Next week, January 10, each party will be privy to an inspection and clarification meeting. Then, on January 31st there will be an interactive scoping session where each party will present a synopsis of what they are working on and what is yet to be undertaken.

In the RFP there are clear indications in broad outlines what the government's objective is. For example, the government is interested in a modern Caribbean type hotel and a training center.

The evaluation committee consists of two members of the Ministry of Tourism, one member of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment, one member of DIP, one member of the Public Works De-

partment, one member of Central Bank and one member of the Aruba Tourism Authority.

Upon receipt of the offers from each of the 4 companies, the committee will carefully analyze the different aspects of the offers before making a recommendation to the government.

In the ensuing months it will become known what will be the future of the Bushiri Hotel and which group will take on the daunting task of developing this defunct hotel so that the dilapidated building which was once a pride of Aruba will again become that. And, the hope is that once again it could become an educational facility for our community.

It appears there is hope for a revival of the Bushiri Hotel complex and for a training institution. Should we hold our breath on this one...?



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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### Storm-force winds and heavy rain batter northern Netherlands



Inundated farmlands are seen near the village of Tolberg, northern Netherlands

--Storm force winds and heavy rain battered northern parts of the Netherlands yesterday as weather bureau KNMI issued a code orange weather warning.

Winds of up to 110 kph hit northern coastal areas, and there was considerable damage inland as gales brought down trees and damaged buildings.

At least 30 flights were cancelled at Schiphol airport because of the strong winds and there was considerable disruption on rush-hour trains.

Ferry services to the Wadden islands have also been cancelled or delayed and Friesland closed most of its inland waterways to shipping.

Some roads have been closed because of falling trees and other debris, and part of

the A73 in Limburg was closed for a time because of a mud stream.

Meanwhile, some 80 people were evacuated from the Groningen village of Tolbert because a dyke was threatening to break through.

The heavy rain over the past few days has led water boards in Groningen to open up emergency flood plains in several places. Although there is no cause for alarm, officials said, some dykes have been reinforced.

Yesterday morning, officials decided to open two nature reserves up to excess water in an effort to stop parts of Groningen, Hoogezand and Winschoten flooding, Nos television said.

Officials throughout Friesland, Groningen and Drenthe are monitoring events closely as water levels reach a 14-year high, Nos television said.

Pumps are operating round the clock in the three northern provinces to shift excess water to the sea or IJsselmeer lake.

In Dordrecht, south of Rotterdam, officials have issued 4,000 sandbags to try to stop the city center river breaking its banks, Nos television reports.

### White House rejects criticism on consumer chief

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The White House insisted yesterday that President Barack Obama acted within his rights by defying Congress and installing a new consumer chief, despite criticism that he usurped his powers.

Republicans reacted furiously, flinging charges of arrogance and a power grab, after Obama inserted Richard Cordray as head of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) after the Senate failed to confirm him.

Obama used a maneuver known as a recess appointment which allows a president to install a nominee in a government agency for a calendar year if Congress is out of town on a break.

But Republicans claimed the president overstepped constitutional bounds because, technically, Congress was in session, after being gavelled in to "pro-forma" meetings through the holidays to forestall recess appointments.

### Free Syrian Army urges Arabs to seek UN help

BEIRUT (AFP) - The head of the Free Syrian Army yesterday called on the Arab League to admit that its observer mission to the country is a failure, urging the bloc to seek UN help to end almost 10 months of bloodshed.

Colonel Riyadh al-Asaad's statement came as 11 more people were reported killed in Syria and after the Arab League turned to the United Nations for help and admitted "mistakes" in its almost two-week old mission.

The "Syrian Revolution 2011" group, one of the driving forces on the Internet behind the uprising, called on Facebook for demonstrations today to urge the "internationalisation of our cause."

"The fact is, the president firmly believes he has the constitutional authority to act as he did," said White House spokesman Jay Carney.

"We feel very strongly that the Constitution and the legal case is strongly on our side," he said, branding the use of pro-forma sessions as a "gimmick" trumped by the Constitution.

The final judgment on Obama's strong-arm conduct and its impact on future presidencies is likely to be rendered in the courts -- a process which will probably outlast Cordray's one-year tenure in the job.

Republicans outmaneuvered by Obama with the Cordray move and the recess appointments of three officials to the National Labor Relations Board on Wednesday, also accused the president of hypocrisy.

They pointed out that he had objected to his predecessor George W. Bush's use of the same tactic to install John

Bolton as US ambassador to the United Nations in 2005.

At the time, then senator Obama objected to the process, saying that Bolton would not be able to function properly and would lack legitimacy because he was not confirmed by the Senate.

But Carney rejected parallels between the cases of Bolton and Cordray, saying Obama's nominee had bipartisan support while there were questions about the qualifications of Bush's pick for the global body.

"This is an effort to deny Richard Cordray the opportunity to serve in this position because of opposition to the position itself and opposition to Wall Street reform, not because of opposition to this nominee."

Republicans argue that the CFPB, set up under Obama's financial reforms, is unaccountable to Congress and therefore needs to be changed before a director can be appointed.

find solutions."

Arab ministers meet on Sunday at the bloc's Cairo headquarters to discuss the mission which has come in for scathing criticism this week from Syrian democracy activists who denounced it as "unprofessional."

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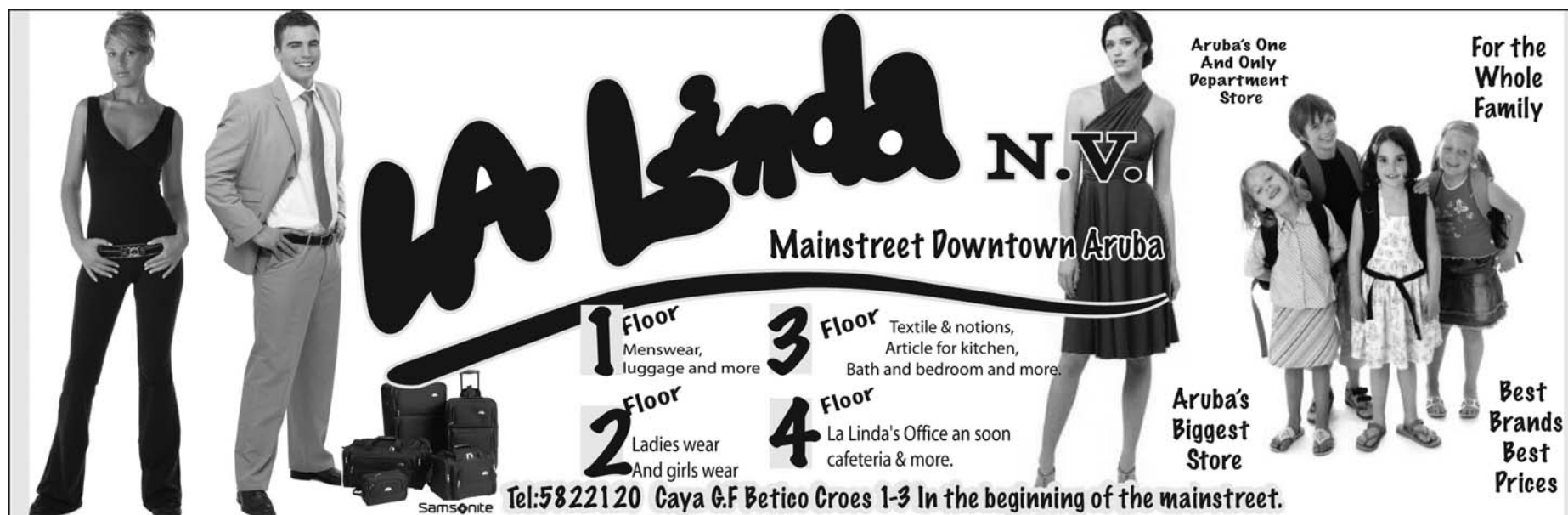
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## Egypt prosecutor demands death sentence for Mubarak

CAIRO (AFP) - The prosecution in Hosni Mubarak's trial delivered an emotional appeal to the court yesterday to sentence the fallen Egyptian dictator to hang for the killings of protesters during the revolt that overthrew him.

Wrapping up their closing arguments, prosecutors said Mubarak, who lay on a stretcher in the defendants' cage, should be executed for ordering the demonstrators' deaths.

"The law punishes premeditated murder with execution. The prosecution demands the maximum punishment," Mustafa Khater told the presiding judge, Ahmed Refaat.

"The souls of the dead, martyrs, are asking where is the judge on earth, the just

judge, who will listen to our complaints, who will punish the oppressors? Punishing the defendants will give each his right," Khater said in his closing arguments.

"The prosecution and Egyptian society expect the truth, that all are equal before the law, and that Egyptian blood is no longer cheap."

The formal demand for the execution of Mubarak, who is detained in a military hospital where he is being treated for a heart condition, and seven security chiefs on trial with him ends the prosecution's case.

The defence, and lawyers representing alleged victims' families, will argue their side in coming hearings, which begin on Monday.

## Israel's Barak plays down breakthrough prospects

JERUSALEM (AFP) - Israeli Defence Minister Ehud Barak said yesterday that Israeli and Palestinian negotiators exchanged position papers at a meeting this week, but neither side held out the promise of a breakthrough.

The talks in the Jordanian capital Amman between Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erakat and Israeli envoy Yitzhak Molcho were the first direct discussions between the sides in more than 15 months.

They will reconvene in Amman on Monday, the US State Department said.

"It is clear to me that the document presented to Yitzhak Molcho by Saeb Erakat is unacceptable in its present state and I imagine that the Palestinians will not accept what was presented by Molcho," Barak told Israeli public radio.

"Long negotiations await us," he added.

"The Israeli side presented

a written document to the Palestinians," a source familiar with the talks told AFP on condition of anonymity.

"The document deals with the final status issues that need to be agreed upon for there to be an historic peace agreement," he added.

A Palestinian official said that the Israeli side proposed a withdrawal from around 40 percent of the territory it occupied in the 1967 Six-Day war.

He said that Israel refused to quit mainly Arab east Jerusalem which it annexed shortly after the 1967 war or to allow Palestinian refugees to return to their former homes within the Jewish state.

The Palestinian official, also talking on condition of anonymity, said that Israel insisted on maintaining a long-term military presence along the West Bank's border with Jordan.

## Dike bursts in flood-hit Brazil, 4,000 evacuated

RIO DE JANEIRO (AFP) - A dike burst in Brazil's flood-hit northern Rio de Janeiro state yesterday, forcing the evacuation of nearly 4,000 residents, authorities said.

Rising water levels on the Muriae river due to the torrential rains of the past few days caused the rupture of a bridge that serves as a dike protecting the town of Campos do Goyta-cazes, rescue officials said.

"We have evacuated about 1,000 families (roughly 4,000 people) who have been brought to the fire department barracks and municipal shelters," firefighter Joaquim Silva told reporters.

The rising waters destroyed part of the bridge and opened a hole of nearly 20 meters (60 feet), flooding the Tres Vendas area in a matter of hours.

Silva said the residents were warned in time and many families were able to salvage some of their belongings.

Aerial television pictures showed the slow advance of



Handout picture released by Agencia Ururau via Agencia O Globo shows people watching the water run through the badly damaged Route BR-356, connecting Belo Horizonte and Sao Joao da Barra, in Rio de Janeiro State. (AFP)

flood waters and residents fleeing the area.

Authorities said the water rose between 3.5 and four meters (11 to 13 feet).

"From the houses, only the roofs were visible," said Henrique Oliveira, of the local

Civil Defense.

Floods caused by heavy rains have left eight people dead and forced the evacuation of more than 15,000 people in the southeastern states of Rio de Janeiro and Minas Gerais, officials said.



PARAGUAY, Asunción : A member of the Ava Guarani indigenous ethnic group is arrested by police during an eviction of squatters from Uruguay's Square in Asuncion, on January 5, 2012. A large group of Ava Guarani members have been occupying Uruguay square in the last months demanding government's aid. (AFP PHOTO)



## Health & Living

# Doctors to remove Vietnamese man's 90kg tumour



(AFP) - A man left unable to walk by a tumour on his right leg that weighs more than the rest of his body went under the knife in Vietnam on Thursday to have the growth removed, hospital officials said.

Nguyen Duy Hai's massive 90 kilogramme (198 pounds) tumour is to be cut away by a team of doctors in a risky 10 hour procedure that has only a 50 percent chance of success, the France-Vietnam (FV) hospital in Ho Chi Minh City said.

Hai, 31, who suffers from a rare genetic disorder, has been living with the tumour since he was four years old, FV hospital's statement read.

He had part of his leg amputated when he was 17, but the tumour, which is not cancerous, continued to expand, making it difficult for Hai to walk and sleep.

The growth is thought to be the largest ever recorded in Vietnam, according to state media, who have followed Hai's condition for years.

"This is a huge procedure with many risks, including the risk of death during surgery or post-operative care," the hospital said, adding that the patient and the family decided to proceed with the removal nonetheless.

The marathon operation is being led by American doctor McKay McKinnon, who successfully removed a tumour weighing 80 kilogrammes from a Romanian woman in 2004.

McKinnon has waived his fee for Hai's surgery and the remaining costs, estimated to come to 250 million dong (around \$12,000), will be covered by donations, FV hospital said.

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## US twins surge due to fertility advances



(AFP) - Advances in fertility treatment and a trend toward later-life childbirth are fueling a boom in twins in the United States, where one in 30 babies is a twin, according to US data out Wednesday.

The number of twins doubled in 2009 compared to 1980, rising from 68,339 to over 137,000 births, said the

National Center for Health Statistics' data brief on three decades of twin births in the United States.

The overall birth rate of twins surged 76 percent over the last 30 years, going from 1.9 percent of all births to 3.3 percent.

That means one in every 30 US babies is a twin, compared

to one in 53 in 1980.

Over the last three decades, twin birth rates rose in every state, by nearly 100 percent among women aged 35-39 and more than 200 percent among women aged 40 and over, it said.

Women in their 30s tend to have higher rates of "spontaneous twinning," or becoming pregnant with twins without the use of fertility therapy, than younger women.

But older mothers are not solely responsible for the surge in twin births, making up only about a third of the rise in the past 30 years.

The rest of the increase is likely due to the mounting use of infertility treatments, such as in vitro fertilization and ovulation stimulation medications, which have grown more common in women 30 and over since the 1980s.

The rate of twin births doubled among white mothers in the last 30 years, rose by about one-half among black mothers and by one-third among Hispanic mothers.

While twins may not be as novel as they once were, the United States might be a very different place without such advances against infertility, with 865,000 fewer twins born in the United States over three decades, the report said.



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Poli kinderartsen	527 4420
Wondenpoli	527 4200
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Poli longarts	527 4310
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## Colombia to pay for removal of French breast implants

(AFP)-Colombia will pay for the removal of defective French-made breast implants for patients whose doctors recommend it, the health ministry has said, responding to a growing global scare.

Colombia has imported some 25,000 breast implants produced by Poly Implant Prothese (PIP), of which 9,457 were seized and destroyed between April and September 2010, after French authorities shut the manufacturer down, according to Colombia's National Institute of Food and Drug Monitoring (INVIMA).

The PIP implants represent 10 percent of the country's total breast implants, according to INVIMA head Clara Cajiras, adding that the institute had received 43 complaints about them.

A growing litany of accusa-

tions against the now-defunct PIP has triggered a worldwide scare, with several countries including France now advising thousands of women to have the implants surgically removed.

PIP was shut down and its products banned in 2010 after it was revealed to have been using a silicone gel that caused abnormally high rupture rates.

Fears over its implants spread globally last month after French health authorities advised 30,000 women to have their PIP implants removed because of the increased risk of rupture.

Officials have also said that cancer, including 16 cases of breast cancer, had been detected in 20 French women with the implants, but have insisted there is no proven link with the disease.



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## 'Dramatic' loss of harp seals amid warming: study



(AFP) - Harp seal pups off the coast of eastern Canada are dying at alarming rates due to a loss of winter ice cover, according to US scientists who questioned if the population will be able to recover.

The study by researchers at Duke University shows that seasonal ice cover in the harp seal breeding regions of the North Atlantic Ocean has declined about six percent per decade since 1979, when satellite data began.

The result has been entire generations of newly born seal pups dying due to their disappearing habitat, said the study published in the open access science journal PLoS ONE.

"The kind of mortality we're seeing in eastern Canada is dramatic," said co-author David Johnston, a research scientist at the Duke University Marine Lab.

"Entire year-classes may be disappearing from the popula-

tion in low ice years -- essentially all of the pups die," he said. "It calls into question the resilience of the population."

For recent data, researchers looked at satellite images of winter ice from 1992 to 2010 in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, a prime breeding region off the east coast of Canada, and compared them to yearly reports of dead seal pup strandings in the region.

They also compared stranding rates to records of a climate phenomenon known as the North Atlantic Oscillation, which controls the intensity and track of westerly winds and storms and exerts a major influence on sea ice formation.

They found that years of weaker NAO and lighter ice cover showed higher death rates among seal pups.

While harp seals have adapted to the earlier spring melts in recent years by developing shorter 12-day nursing periods, it remains unclear if their population can sustain itself against sea ice losses over time.

"As a species, they're well suited to deal with natural short-term shifts in climate, but our research suggests they may not be well adapted to absorb the effects of short-term variability combined with longer-term climate change and other human influences such as hunting and by-catch," Johnston said.

The team also looked back at data from 1950 to 1972 which showed that NAO weather changes were tied to big declines in the seal population, followed by period of recovery from 1973 to 2000.

"But there's a caveat: regardless of NAO conditions, our models show that sea ice cover in all harp seal breeding regions in the North Atlantic have been declining by as much as six percent a decade over the study period," added Johnston.

## Sci-Tech

# BlackBerry maker vows privacy safeguard amid probe



(AFP) - Research In Motion vowed this week to defend the legal privacy rights of BlackBerry users after a judicial commission in Pakistan ordered copies of smartphone communications in a scandal probe.

The Canadian firm reacted to news that a Pakistani commission was seeking records

for a probe into an unsigned memo purported to ask for Washington's help to rein in Pakistan's military.

The highly controversial memo was allegedly an attempt by a close aide of President Asif Ali Zardari to enlist the US military's help to head off a military coup in May in Pakistan.

It was made public in October by Pakistani-American businessman Mansoor Ijaz.

On Monday, the commission directed Pakistan government officials to obtain the BlackBerry "record of conversation" between Ijaz and a former envoy to the US accused of crafting the memo, Husain Haqqani.

Haqqani resigned over the affair and the Supreme Court has stopped him from leaving Pakistan. He has denied any involvement in the scandal.

Canada-based RIM, which makes the BlackBerry, said, "Like others in our industry, from time to time, we may receive requests from legal authorities for lawful access assistance."

The company statement added: "We are guided by appropriate legal processes and publicly disclosed lawful access principles in this regard as we balance any such requests against our priority of maintaining the privacy rights of our users."

## 'Lost world' of sea life thrives on Antarctic sea floor



(AFP) - A seven-pronged starfish, a mysterious pale octopus and a new kind of yeti crab are among a teeming community of previously undiscovered life on the sea floor near Antarctica, British researchers said.

The species, described this week on the online journal PLoS Biology, were first glimpsed in 2010 when researchers lowered a robotic vehicle to explore the East Scotia Ridge deep beneath the Southern Ocean, between Antarctica and the tip of South America.

The dark and remote area is home to hydrothermal vents, which are deep-sea springs that spew liquid at temperatures of up to 382 degrees Celsius (720 Fahrenheit), and have previously been found to host unusual life forms in other parts of the world.

Hydrothermal vents were first discovered in 1977 off the Galapagos Islands.

The latest discoveries

2,400-2,600 meters deep include several new types of sea anemones, stalked barnacles and unidentified octopi, and a new kind of starfish that was observed feeding on the fauna around the vents.

A new type of blond, furry-legged yeti crab, a species formally known as *Kiwa hirsuta* which was first seen at hydrothermal vents in the South Pacific in 2005, was also found to have different DNA than those already known to man.

Fish were uncommon, and only seen on the peripheries of the hot zones.

Researchers were equally intrigued by what they did not find -- including many of the

giant worms, vent mussels, crabs, clams and shrimp that have been found before at other deep sea vents in the Pacific, Atlantic and Indian Oceans.

The differences in species suggest that the geographic conditions of the area may make it a distinct province for certain forms of life, which have been unable to migrate to other parts of the globe's sea floor.

Researchers on the project came from the University of Oxford, University of Southampton and the British Antarctic Survey. Their research appears online in the January 3 issue of PLoS Biology.



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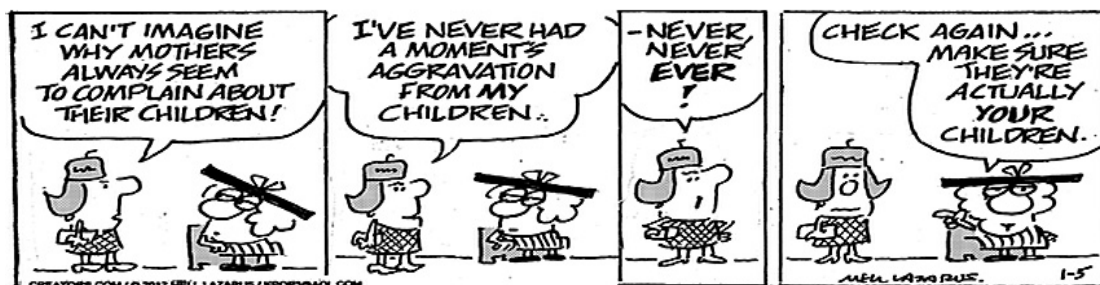


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## ACROSS

1. Letter afterthoughts
4. Tibetan monk
8. Disembarked
12. Bert of "Mary Poppins," e.g.
14. Algerian seaport
15. Parasitic insects
16. Michelangelo statue
17. Cozy spot
18. Uris or Spinks
19. Movie version of "An American Tragedy"
22. Time—(proven reliable)
23. Sailing
24. Do needle-work
26. Volcanic peak in Ore.
31. Are inclined (to)
35. Material for Christmas tree snow
38. Falcon's kin
39. GIs' newspaper
42. Up, in baseball
43. Recipe direction
44. Sweet biscuit
45. Took five
47. Hold session
49. Objectives
52. Kidman of "The Hours"
57. 1953 Stanwyck film
61. Mend
62. De Matteo of "Joey"
63. One who detests
64. Recipient of dribbling
65. Summers, in Reims
66. Jungle

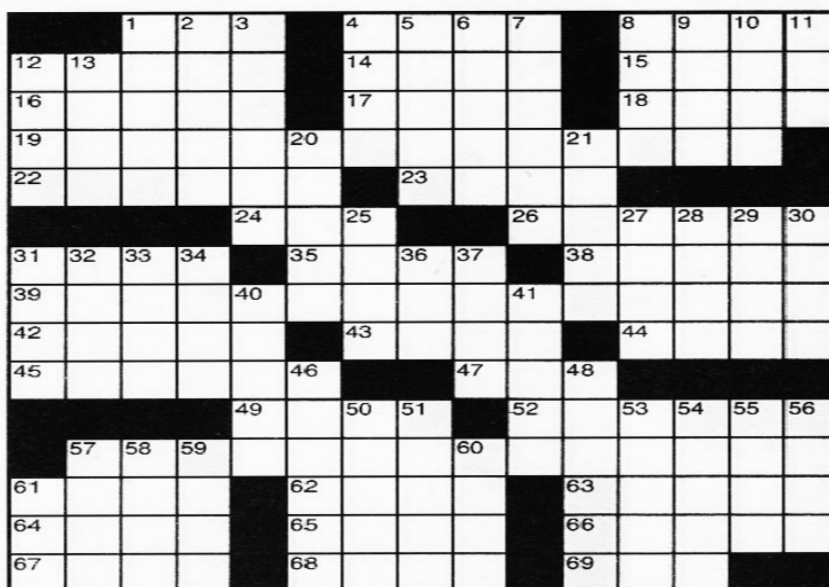
67. journeys
68. Smelter's raw materials
69. Spanish muralist
69. Orch. section

## DOWN

1. Emma and Sir Robert
2. ease (be a good host)
3. Parking lot features
4. "WKRP" alum
5. "Gladiator" setting
6. Sail holders
7. Olympic medal ceremony feature
8. "Well That Ends Well"
9. Place
10. Church art

11. —four (CB affirmation)
12. Petty argument
13. Use a towel
20. Swelling, to a medic
21. Hash-house patron
25. Successes
27. What many newborns lack
28. KGB's forerunner
29. Corrida shouts
30. Secretary
31. Russian tyrant
32. Major finale
33. Catches
34. "Phooey!"
36. Summertime in Chicago: abbr.
37. In existing condition

40. Calliope power
41. "Lemon Tree" singer Lopez
46. Electron tubes
48. "Heller in Pink —" (Anthony Quinn Western)
50. "Le — d'Arthur"
51. Turn up one's nose
53. Demonstrator's aid
54. Frisky water mammal
55. Onion's cousin
56. Transgresses
57. Rend
58. Golfer Irwin
59. House wings
60. Endure
61. "Boardwalk Empire" network



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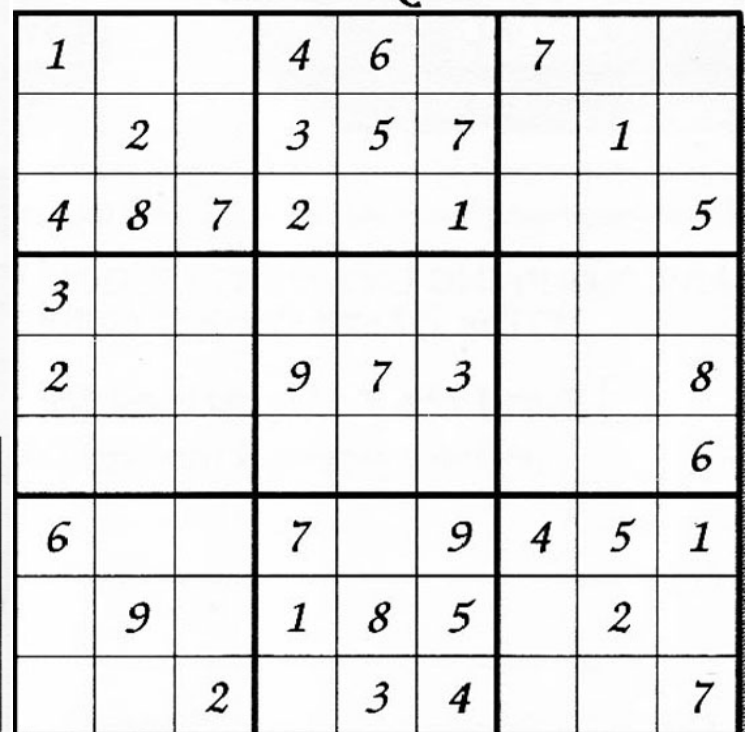
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## Sudoku



SOLUTION

4	8	6	7	9	2	1	5	3
5	2	9	5	8	1	7	6	4
1	9	7	6	2	4	8	3	5
9	5	1	2	7	5	6	4	8
8	7	5	4	6	1	9	2	3
6	2	9	1	8	5	7	3	4
5	9	1	6	2	4	8	7	3
7	1	8	4	5	9	2	6	3
2	6	4	8	9	7	5	3	1

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9. A number is Never repeated in a row or column. In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9



## Finance

# Eurozone doubts resurface, rock euro, Italy, Spain

PARIS (AFP) - Deep concerns over the eurozone debt crisis resurfaced with a vengeance yesterday, driving the euro to 16-month dollar lows as Italy and Spain came under intense pressure on the markets.

The euro sank below \$1.28 to levels last seen in September 2010 as Spain said it banks would need 50 billion euros, more than first expected, to cover bad loan losses while Italian Prime Minister Mario Monti rattled nerves with an unannounced visit to Brussels.

Monti, who meets French President Nicolas Sarkozy on today in Paris, was making only a private visit, diplomatic sources in Brussels said later.

The European Commission said no talks were planned with EU head Jose Manuel Barroso, European Commissioner Olli Rehn or EU President Herman Van Rompuy.

Already under pressure as the economy buckles and debt mounts, Italian stocks slumped 3.65 percent as floundering UniCredit spooked investors by pricing a planned share sale at 43 percent below current market levels.

Madrid fared only a little better, falling 2.94 percent as investors ignored strong US jobs data which otherwise helped Wall Street where stocks recovered from opening losses. London fell 0.78 percent, Paris 1.53 percent while Frankfurt limited its drop to just 0.25 percent.

US payrolls firm ADP said the US private sector ramped up hiring in December to the highest level in a year, with 325,000 jobs created in the month, much more than the 180,000 forecast by analysts.

New claims for US unemployment benefits meanwhile fell 15,000 to 372,000 in the week to December 31, the data combined suggesting the

world's biggest economy could be turning for the better.

Ian Shepherdson, chief US economist at High Frequency Economics, called the ADP report "spectacular."

"It fits our view that the economy is in better shape than is generally believed but we have to be cautious," he said, adding however that the figures can be volatile.

The US data only added to the euro's problems, with the bloc's economic prospects clouded as governments slash spending and hike taxes in hope of stabilising their strained public finances.

"The pressure on the euro is unrelenting, following the better-than-expected US jobs data we have just (gone) ... below \$1.28 for the first time since September 2010," said Spread Co analyst Ian O'Sullivan.

"The debt crisis fears are just not going away and if anything are intensifying," he warned, with \$1.27 and \$1.25 now realistic targets.

"Since May last year, the single currency has been on a downward spiral," said City Index analyst Joshua Raymond.

"The uncertainty over the sovereign debt situation remains, alongside fears that key nations such as France could soon lose their triple-A credit rating is a constant drag on the euro's prospects."

He noted that a "French bond auction this morning saw decent demand but rising yields showed a deterioration in investor confidence in France's ability to maintain its top notch credit rating."

France raised 7.96 billion euros in long-term bonds, with the sale seen as satisfactory if not inspiring given the gloomy backdrop.

"It is likely that volatility (in the markets) will persist as

further bond auctions are scheduled for Spain and Italy next week," said Kathleen Brooks, an analyst at trading group Forex.com

Spanish Economy Minister Luis de Guindos' estimate of the banks' bad loans was higher than many private forecasts and sat awkwardly with a European Banking Authority finding that Spain's five biggest banks require 26 billion euros in fresh capital.

Spain's new right-leaning government meanwhile warned the country's social security fund's accounts are worse than had been feared, with a 2011 deficit of 668 million euros (\$856 million) instead of a surplus, adding to the problems.

The eurozone debt crisis claimed Greece as its first victim in May 2010, with Ireland and then Portugal also needing massive EU and International Monetary Fund bailouts.

As the crisis drags on, speculation has grown that Italy and Spain could be the next member states to need a costly bailout but it is far from clear whether the resources currently available would be enough.

An EU summit last month came up with yet another series of measures to tame the crisis but implementation takes time, with the markets piling on the pressure and showing no patience as Brussels tries to hold the line.

Standard & Poor's has threatened to downgrade most of the eurozone if it judges the measures aimed at strengthening fiscal discipline are insufficient to help resolve the debt crisis.

Such a downgrade would only make the bloc's funding more difficult and costly, compounding the problems unless the economy can start to grow much faster quickly, a distant prospect at the moment.

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## Shell in Nigeria warns on production, restarts major field

LAGOS (AFP) - Shell warned yesterday it may fail to meet some contractual obligations after a Nigerian pipeline was sabotaged, while adding that production has resumed at a major offshore field following a large spill.

"Shell has declared a force majeure on Bonny light crude following a deferment caused by a sabotage-related spill leading to our shutting down 70,000 barrels per day of oil," spokesman Precious Okolobo told AFP.

The Anglo-Dutch firm said it shut down production on December 24 after thieves attacked the Nembe creek pipeline in southern Nigeria to siphon crude. The measure will remain in force during pipeline repairs, expected to be completed by end of the month.

Separately, Shell announced yesterday it has resumed production at its Bonga offshore oil field after a clean-up following a December 20 oil leak that was one of Nigeria's worst offshore spills in recent years.

Production was shut down from the oil field after a leak occurred in a line as oil was being transferred from a production vessel to a loading tanker.

Shell said the spill amounted to less than 40,000 barrels and that it had been "largely dispersed" by December 25.

Activists however reported oil slicks appeared just off the coast of communities in Bayelsa and Delta states.

## Brazil auto sales hit new record in 2011

SAO PAULO (AFP) - Auto sales in Brazil rose 3.4 percent in 2011 to a record 3.63 million units, with imports making up 23.6 percent of the total, the industry said YESTERday.

It was the fifth consecutive sales record for cars and light vehicles for Latin America's largest auto market, surpassing the 3.51 million tally recorded in 2010, the National Association of Motor Vehicle Manufacturers (Anfavea) said in a statement.

The association meanwhile said exports totaled 541,600 units last year, up 7.7 percent from 2010 when the total was 502,700.

Brazil last year overtook Germany as the fourth-biggest car market in the world, behind China, the United States and Japan.

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MOUHP	PIECE	NATO
	APSES	RACER
MINDSET		RATION
UVEA	RABBITEARS	
TASSE	ARETE	
TNT	MARSALA	GNP
	AMIES	NILES
LIPSERVICE	DUOS	
AGLETS	ANCIENT	
UNAPT	TALCS	
RIGS	PRIVATEEYE	
ETUI	CEDES	ALAR
LEES	TEASE	PIKE

**Daily Exchange Rates**

Current as of: 01/05/2012

Currency Code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate	
U.S.A.	USD	1.77	1.78	1.80
Dutch Antilles	ANG	98.00	100.00	100.20
Canada	CAD	1.73	1.75	1.77
Britain	GBP	2.70	2.75	2.81
Switzerland	CHF	187.35	188.07	188.87
Netherlands	EUR	226.48	228.54	230.84
Sweden	SEK	24.85	25.57	26.37
Denmark	DKK	29.77	30.49	31.29
Norway	NOK	28.78	29.50	30.30
Japan	JPY	229.53	231.62	233.95

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2. "Picks of the day and week" will appear in THE MORNING NEWS
3. Contest begins today and deadline for submissions of photos is Monday, February 20, 2012 at 6:00 PM; drawing for raffle will take place on Ash Wednesday, February 22.
4. Judging is final; winners will be announced in Friday's paper, February 24.
5. Each photo submission earns a raffle ticket towards the Ash Wednesday drawing

**Prizes for the Carnival photo Contest:**

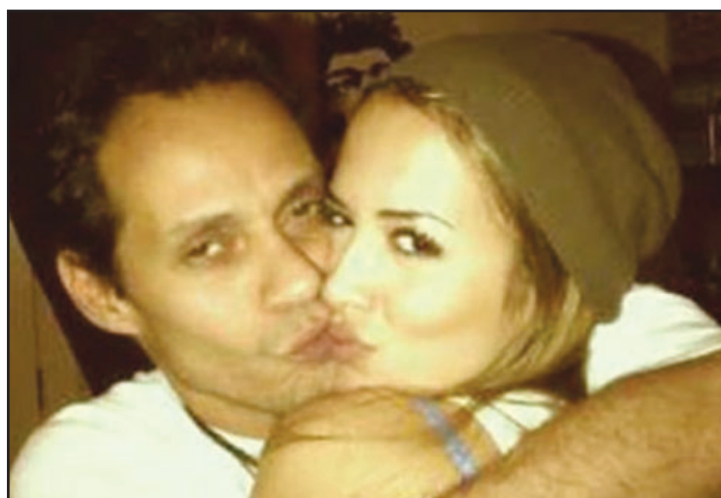
Grand Prize: 3 days/2 nights stay at Boardwalk Apartments  
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No purchase necessary to participate; subscription to THE MORNING NEWS and submission of photos are free; photos will only be used for Carnival promotion and owners retain all rights.

**Win airfare to Bonaire and other great prizes - no purchase necessary! Send us your Carnival pix and see them published**

## Marc Anthony has a new Love



Yes, he's moving on, after months of separating of wife of 7 years Jennifer Lopez, the Latino singer is dating Venezuelan model Shannon De Lima, and has shown her off in this cosy Facebook snap which was accompanied by the caption: "Gracias!"

And the 43-year-old also used Twitter to declare his adoration for the stunning brunette, who has a four-year-old son from a previous relationship.

The message tweeded, which is written in Spanish, translates as, "To Shannon, my statue of liberty. Kisses

baby!"

The singer went public with his new relationship on Tuesday, January 3, as he retweeted a posting from his adopted son Chaze Muniz, who wrote, "To all my followers and everybody on twitter follow 2012 best couple and for many more years to come @MarcAnthony and @Shadelima !!!!!"

Anthony's new leading lady, a 24-year-old Venezuelan model who is also the runner-up of 2005 Miss Earth Venezuela. According to Hola, De Lima has a 4-year-old son from a previous relationship.

## All pass in Oprah's first class in South Africa

JOHANNESBURG, (AFP) - The first graduating class at Oprah Winfrey's school for South African girls are set for further studies after passing their final exams, the board of directors said Thursday.

The 72 girls together achieved A grades in 188 subjects, David Wylde told AFP.

"This tells us if you take girls from a disadvantaged background and give them a proper and extending education, they will perform superbly well," he said.

Just under 500,000 full-time students sat for South Africa's national final school exams in November last year, achieving a 70.2-percent pass rate, according to results release on Wednesday.

The multi-million-dollar school south of Johannesburg in Henley-on-Klip -- founded with Winfrey's own money -- opened in 2007 in a ceremony attended by Nelson Mandela.

The initial classes of girls at the school were aged between 11 and 13, chosen after an initial 3,500 applications, with Winfrey choosing the final 152 for their academic and leadership qualities as well as



their disadvantaged background.

A few months later, the school was rocked by abuse

claims, when a dormitory matron was accused of indecent assault on six girls and a colleague. She was found not guilty last year.

The girls now plan to study everything from medicine and law to arts and engineering. Several have won full scholarships, others are still waiting for decisions on bursaries.

Two are set to attend American universities, eight are headed to schools in other countries, and 62 have been accepted at South African universities.

**Carnaval Schedule**

**January – Wk 1**

**Friday Jan. 6: Carnaval Warm up Jump In - 7 p.m. – 1 p.m. (Loc: Compleho Deportivo Frans Figaroa)**

**Saturday Jan. 7: Parada di Flambeu (Torch Parade) – 8 p.m.**



## Gold Coast Aruba: Great savings for large families on holiday rentals



Aruba's newest and most innovative gated community has enjoyed steady sales since breaking ground, as many are finding the secure surroundings and outstanding amenities are just what they were looking for before considering purchasing property on the island. Some owners are using the villas or town homes as vacation retreats rather than full time and are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their 'home away from home' in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," noted Gold Coast developer Fito Croes. To assist in the demand for more complete facilities for groups and families, famed hotelier Ed Malone has been placed in charge of the rental program.

Staying at Gold Coast is a very attractive proposition for those traveling with groups that would require multiple hotel rooms. Two and three bedroom Villas or Town Homes accommodate large numbers and offer extensive amenities along with a final cost resulting in considerable savings. The community is minutes to the best beaches and all the casino action, and offers a quiet and secluded getaway with two swimming pools and specialized services with more on the way, such as a fitness room, tennis courts and mini-mall. Ed can arrange maid service, babysitters, caterers,

airline pick-up and drop-off; they even boast a shopping service to stock your shelves before arrival.

Gold Coast accommodations are elegant and spacious, offering privacy for

high-speed fiber-optic Internet connection, individual washer/dryer, and are fully air-conditioned. Cribs, high chairs and hair dryers are available for a modest fee. Concierge services to arrange



parents or a few couples. Beautifully appointed kitchens and bathrooms grace each abode; barbecues and lounges are provided for friendly cookouts and truly savoring the island life. All homes come with cable TV,

rental cars, spa appointments, activities and restaurant reservations are all part of the package.

Check-in for your holiday escape is conducted in the comfort of your vacation home, not while waiting on line at check-in desk. In every way, Gold Coast seeks to pamper their guests while providing them with the feeling of being in a cozy community, not the normally bustling resort, particularly experienced during the major holidays. If you wish an optimal vacation experience with great savings, visit their website: [www.goldcoast-aruba.com](http://www.goldcoast-aruba.com) to get acquainted with the community and the layout, details and availability of accommodations, or call 586-2200 to talk personally to a Gold Coast representative.



## Adorable and affordable; 5 Burgers Aruba offers an island twist to the great American Burger

Expatriates residing on Aruba, Aaron and Rosie Walisever are living their dream: a home on paradise while welcoming all and sundry to their proud undertaking, 5 Burgers Aruba. Some may be quite well acquainted with a nationally known U.S franchise bearing the name "5", and patrons can expect the same great quality between the buns, but an expanded menu and Rosie and Aaron's fanatical dedication to giving their customers what



Rosie and Aaron love their burger too



Gouda Burger 2

they really want has resulted in a unique menu.

"You never get a second chance to make a first impression," comments Aaron; and upon entering 5 Burgers Aruba in The Village Mall in Palm Beach, one is struck by utterly spotless surroundings and a smiling, friendly, attentive service crew. Of course, the main item on the menu is burgers-the way they were meant to be, thick and juicy, made fresh daily and 100% pure beef, the kind that made the hamburger a traditional American treat.

Prices vary only slightly between regular and small (basically 2 patties or 1) with specialty items such as Gouda Burger, Farmer's Burger, Man Burger (almost 12 ounces of choice beef), and a Western Burger with crispy onion rings and BBQ sauce. All of these can be personalized with an incredible array of toppings, (mushrooms, jalapeño peppers, bacon, cheese, lettuce, tomato...whatever the list goes on) at absolutely no extra cost.

5 Burger portions are ENORMOUS! Aaron suggests that even their small serving of fries, which are

made from hand-cut fresh Idaho potatoes, is enough to be shared by two. He was very amused to watch a famous French chef demonstrating the best way to make fried potatoes on a gourmet cooking show and could only comment "He stole my recipe!" Try them the English way-with vinegar, and you'll wonder how you ever ate fries without it. This same 5-star chef also swears by Gouda as the best topping for the ideal gourmet cheeseburger.

If you are a fan of crispy friend onion rings, as we are at THE MORNING NEWS, you cannot leave there without trying their secret recipe batter-dipped gourmet rings, made from fresh, not frozen onions. Unquestionably, the best we have had anywhere, and for those that like a little spice, the fried jalapeños are a real treat. Aaron and Rosie have expanded their menu to accommodate certain tastes and dietary needs; they offer a tasty grilled chicken sandwich as well.

5 Burgers Aruba is open for lunch & dinner - daily hours are Noon to 10-ish; delivery is available to both the high-rise and low-rise hotel and beach district for orders over \$50. Enjoy a great lunch without ever leaving the beach by calling 586-3904. However, we suggest you stop by and enjoy their authentic, heartfelt hospitality; it is not unusual for either owner or Manager Marc Anthony when things are not too busy, to sit and chat while sharing their knowledge of the island. Totally yummy and fun plus a great deal for a quality burger, they are definitely worth a visit



## SPORTS

**Football: Tevez set to snub Inter for Milan - agent**

ROME (AFP) - Carlos Tevez looks set to snub interest from Inter Milan in order to join their bitter city rivals AC Milan, according to the Argentine's agent, Kia Joorabchian.

While Inter's technical director, Marco Branca, travelled to England to meet Manchester City officials on Thursday, Joorabchian held talks with Milan chief executive Adriano Galliani in Rio.

Joorabchian told Italian media that he is hoping to come to an agreement with Milan rather than Inter.

"We're here (in Rio) to finalise with Milan. We haven't heard from Inter since August," he said.

Following a telephone conference call involving Tevez, Galliani, Joorabchian (all of whom were in Rio) and City, the agent added: "I'm confident that Milan and Manchester City will soon come to an agreement."

Italian press claim Tevez has already found a home in Milan -- close to the La Scala Opera House -- and that City will give Milan an answer next week.

Galliani is said to have described the offer made to the Premier League leaders as "fantastic".

The Milan neighbours are not the only ones keeping tabs on Tevez, as French league

leaders Paris Saint-Germain are also believed to be interested in the 27-year-old.

Milan originally offered to take the striker on loan until the end of the season with an option to buy him for 23 million euros (\$29.4m) in the summer.

But City refused to consider a loan deal and said they will not sell him unless their asking price -- believed to be considerably higher than Milan's first offer -- is met.

If Milan cannot land Tevez, they will reportedly turn their attentions to Catania's Argentine forward Maxi Lopez.

**NBA: Kings fire Westphal after 2-5 start**

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Paul Westphal was fired as coach of the NBA Sacramento Kings on Thursday after the team struggled to a 2-5 start that included Westphal telling center DeMarcus Cousins not to attend a game.

Geoff Petrie, president of basketball operations for the Kings, said assistant coach Keith Smart would guide the team in a Thursday night home matchup against Milwaukee.

"I want to thank Paul for all of his effort on behalf of the Kings," Petrie said. "Unfortunately, the overall perform-

ance level of the team has not approached what we felt was reasonable to expect."

Westphal was 51-120 in just over two seasons guiding the club in California's capital. The Kings have not won more than 25 games in any of the past three seasons and have not reached the NBA playoffs since 2006.

In a statement released by the team, Westphal thanked the team owners, the Maloof family, and indicated he had no hard feelings.

"I would like to thank the Maloof family for the incredi-

ble opportunity they gave me to participate in the attempt to bring the Sacramento Kings back to prominence," Westphal said.

"While the job is far from finished, I am proud of the strides we were able to make... I wish them nothing but success."

Westphal told Cousins to stay home after saying the center had twice demanded to be traded. The game Cousins missed last Sunday, a 96-80 victory over New Orleans, was Westphal's last victory with the Kings.

**Football: MLS stretches longest season to December**

NEW YORK (AFP) - Major League Soccer unveiled its 2012 schedule on Thursday, with 19 North American clubs kicking off the longest season in MLS history on March 10 and finishing with the playoff final on December 1.

The 17th season will feature 323 matches and include the league's newest team, the Montreal Impact. Nine matches on April 28 will make that date the busiest in league history.

Five matches will be featured on opening night, including Real Salt Lake at defending champion Los Angeles Galaxy, which could see English midfielder David Beckham return after turning down an offer from Paris Saint-Germain.

Other March 10 games find Kansas City at DC United, New England at San Jose, Columbus at Colorado and Montreal making its MLS debut at Vancouver.

A regular season of 34 matches for each club will

conclude October 28 with one of the playoff finalists hosting the MLS championship match

on December 1, a full 267 days after the openers.

**Baseball: Cubs send fiery pitcher Zambrano to Miami**

MIAMI (AFP) - Venezuelan right-handed pitcher Carlos Zambrano was traded from the Chicago Cubs to the Miami Marlins on Thursday in a deal that will see the Cubs pay most of the South American's salary for this season.

New Marlins manager Ozzie Guillen, a long-time friend of compatriot Zambrano, filled out his team's starting rotation for the upcoming Major League Baseball season in exchange for pitcher Chris Volstad.

The Cubs will pay all but \$2.5 million of the \$18 million salary that Zambrano is due for the 2012 campaign to pitch alongside Anibal Sanchez, Mark Buehrle, Josh Johnson and Ricky Nolasco.

Zambrano went 9-7 last year in a season that ended

early. After Atlanta batters tagged him for five home runs in a game last August, Zambrano was ejected for throwing an inside pitch to Chipper Jones.

Zambrano, known for emotional outbursts, departed the stadium early and told teammates that he was retiring. He did not pitch again but his retirement was short-lived, more from anger than lack of desire.

"We went into this with our eyes open. What has happened has happened," said Marlins president of baseball operations Larry Beinfest.

Zambrano has a career record of 125-81 with a 3.61 earned-run average over 319 major league games. He also has hit 23 career homers, the most by any pitcher since 24 by Bob Gibson, who retired in 1975.

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## NBA: Heat, Bulls romp while Wizards remain winless



Thomas Gibson #42 of the Kansas State Wildcats battles Tyshawn Taylor #10 of the Kansas Jayhawks for a rebound during the game on January 4, 2012 at Allen Fieldhouse in Lawrence, Kansas.

MIAMI (AFP) - Miami and Chicago each improved to an NBA-best 6-1 with lopsided victories on Wednesday while the Washington Wizards remained the NBA's only winless club by being routed at Orlando.

LeBron James scored 33

points, passed out 13 assists and grabbed eight rebounds to spark host Miami over Indiana 118-83. Chris Bosh added 22 points while Dwyane Wade did not play, sitting out with a bruised left foot.

"Just trying to be as smart as I can right now," Wade said. "I haven't had my lift because I haven't been able to explode. You play through pain but you have got to take a look at it."

"It's the kind of thing that's day-to-day. It feels good one moment, it doesn't the other."

Roy Hibbert led the Pacers

with 16 points and 12 rebounds.

The Heat stayed one game atop the Southeast division ahead of Orlando, which improved to 5-2 by ripping Washington 103-85, knocking the Wizards to 0-6, the worst start in franchise history.

Dwight Howard scored 28 points and pulled down 20 rebounds to power the Magic to victory while Ryan Anderson added 23 points and 15 rebounds. Hedo Turkoglu and JJ Redick each added 14 points for Orlando.

Nick Young paced the visiting Wizards with 17 points.

At Detroit, Chicago's Carlos Boozer scored 19 points and Derrick Rose contributed 17 points and 10 assists in the Bulls' 99-83 victory over the Pistons.

At 6-1, the Bulls moved 1 1/2 games ahead of Indiana atop the Central division.

Joakim Noah added 13 points and 11 rebounds for the Bulls while Detroit was led by Greg Monroe's 19 points and 13 rebounds.

## Golf: Rusty Aiken fires 64 to lead Africa Open

EAST LONDON (AFP) - South African Thomas Aiken made light of a two-week lay-off from the game by returning a nine-under-par 64 Thursday to take the Africa Open first-round lead.

Seeking a second European Tour title after winning the Spanish Open last year, Aiken produced numerous pin-point approach shots to set up a host of birdies in the opening tournament on the 2012 Road to Dubai.

He is one stroke ahead of compatriots Retief Goosen and Jaco Ahlers at the top of a leaderboard dominated by South Africans as Michael du Toit and Dean O'Riley share fourth place on 66 with Welshman Phillip Price.

Defending champion and shock 2010 British Open winner Louis Oosthuizen, whose wife is expecting their second child, had to settle for a 69 over the par-73, 6,190-metre East London Golf Club along

the Indian Ocean coast.

George Coetzee, considered a player to watch after a play-off defeat and a number of top-three finishes on the last European Tour, shot a 71 to lie seven strokes behind Aiken.

Englishman Tommy Fleetwood, winner of the second-tier Challenge Tour last season, was among a large group on 69 with compatriot Chris Wood, beaten by Oosthuizen in the play-off that settled the last Africa Open.

## Albert Pujols' Signed With The L.A. Angels

Albert Pujols could earn as much as \$268,750,000 over the next 20 years, according to a union filing detailing the fine print of his contract with the Angels.

The team and Pujols will enter a 10-year, personal-services agreement following the playing contract's expiration or Pujols' retirement, whichever is later, a deal that will pay \$1 million annually. There also is a marketing agreement that will pay Pujols for milestone accomplish-

ments. The player will receive \$3 million for 3,000 hits and \$7 million for a record 763rd home run. He currently has 2,073 hits and 763 home runs.

Including all three agreements, Pujols could make up to \$265.75 million over 20 years. That includes \$875,000 in possible award bonuses each year for accomplishments such as Most Valuable Player, World Series and league championship series MVP, Gold Glove and Silver Slugger, and making the All-Star team.

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## NHL: Four Senators voted into All-Star Game by fans

NEW YORK (AFP) - Four players from the Ottawa Senators were voted into the National Hockey League All-Star Game that will be staged in Canada's capital on January 29, the league announced on Thursday.

Senators captain Daniel Alfredsson and teammates Jason Spezza, Erik Karlsson and Milan Michalek were assured of taking to home ice for the annual matchup, which will feature a pre-game draft of talent to decide players for each team.

Toronto Maple Leafs defenseman Dion Phaneuf and Tim Thomas, goaltender for the reigning Stanley Cup champion Boston Bruins, were also voted into the game by about 24 million ballots cast from November 14 through this past Wednesday.

Another 36 players will be selected later this month to complete the pool of players from which captains will select their squads on January 26. Each team will have 12 forwards, six defensemen and three goaltenders.

Karlsson, a 21-year-old Swede, led all players with 939,591 votes with Maple Leafs captain Phaneuf second at 614,933.

Alfredsson, who scored his 400th NHL goal last Friday, led all forwards with 897,055 votes with Spezza next on 817,483 and Michalek third at 743,977.

Thomas, last season's Vezina Trophy winner as top goaltender and Conn Smythe Trophy winner as playoff Most Valuable Player, led all goaltenders with 626,540 votes. He is on a 14-2 run in the nets for Boston.



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## Tennis: Federer notches up 20th successive win

DOHA (AFP) - Roger Federer scored a 20th successive win which carried him into his sixth semi-final in six tries at the Qatar Open and a re-match with the man with whom he played one of the all-time great Grand Slam matches.

Federer's 6-3, 5-7, 6-4 success against Andreas Seppi earned another meeting with Jo-Wilfried Tsonga, the Frenchman who came from two sets down to beat him at Wimbledon last year and lost to him only narrowly in the final of the ATP World Tour finals.

"I am looking forward to playing him (Tsonga) again," said Federer. "I hope it will be a good season for both of us."

"He's always a nice guy to see play, and a nice guy off the court as well -- so I hope we can live up to expectations."

It was an up-and down performance on Thursday by the Grand Slam record-holder against the top 40 Italian who often rallied elegantly and expertly from the baseline without having overwhelming weapons.

Federer sometimes played a little ambitiously even for him in the second set, going 1-5 down, and recovering to 5-5 before somehow still losing it.

He broke serve early in the third set and held the advantage till the end, but his excellent first serving and



**Roger Federer of Switzerland returns the ball to Andreas Seppi of Italy during their ATP Qatar Open tennis quarterfinal match at the Khalifa Tennis and Squash Complex in Doha**

passages of brilliance were marred by a total of 41 unforced errors.

Earlier Tsonga made possible the rematch he has longed for when he hurtled into the semi-finals in little more than a hour.

The world number six wants to prove he can consistently compete on equal terms with the world's best, and his 6-2, 6-1 win over Albert Ramos of Spain gave him a chance to start doing that.

Tsonga did little wrong against a surprise survivor who was increasingly pressured into attempting too much, thereby raising his ratio of mistakes to self-destructive levels.

The Frenchman also produced a combination of excellent serving, consistent ground-stroking, and con-

win the tournament," suggesting perhaps that we had seen little of what he is capable yet.

But about Federer his words exuded clarity.

"Federer is the best player in the world, probably ever, and it will be difficult to play him," Tsonga said. "You have to be perfect. I have to play my best tennis."

"But I know I can do it. I have done it already."

Tsonga was referring to the sensational win he had over Federer in the Wimbledon quarter-finals in July, and perhaps to his defeat with honour by 6-4 in the final set against the Swiss in the final of the ATP World Tour finals at the end of November.

However the victory came on grass and the narrow loss indoors.

In Qatar, on an outdoor hard court, the circumstances are different again, with a tricky breeze and conditions which are sometimes on the slow side.

spicuous calm, all of which augured well for his meeting with Federer.

Tsonga's celebration, extravagant for so relatively modest a success, may have indicated how much he is looking forward to playing the Grand Slam record-holder.

When asked about it, he said: "You will see when I

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